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FE - Mr. Parsons
FE - Mr. Steeves

October 22, 1959

CA - Mr. Martin

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Further information on President Chiang's Views re Mainland Operations

Reference to my memorandum of October 19 (Tab A) concerning President Chiang's views on mainland operations and to your comment suggesting a possible follow-up to obtain further light on Chiang's views, I have received another memo of "Notes on Weekly Meetings of Heads of U. S. Agencies" from Taipei which conveys further information on this subject. I am enclosing an excerpt herewith. I am sending you under separate cover a report on the same subject received through another channel.

It appears from these reports that President Chiang is reconciled at least for the time being to the need for concentrating on a more effective clandestine program in order to find out what resistance assets are available and to avoid any appearance of initiating military action against the mainland. Chiang apparently realizes that the most overt approach which he favors, e.g. with a large number of special forces in drops on the mainland, would not be in keeping with the Joint Communique of October 23, 1958. On the other hand we cannot expect him to abandon the latter approach indefinitely since it is one that he has advocated for several years, e. g. with discussion with Secretary Herter in 1957.

In view of these reports, I do not believe it is necessary to ask for further information by letter. Incidentally, we have just received Embassy Taipei's comments on our "uprisings" paper and I will report on this at a later date.

Attachments:

Tab A - Memo dated Oct. 19
Tab B - Excerpt from Memo "Notes on Weekly Meetings of Heads of U. S. Agencies".

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